

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
CHESTER-LE-STREET

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1962



JOHN L. SIDDLE, M.B., B.S. D.P.H.

Norman Ward Ltd.
Low Fell.

1963.

CHESTER-LE-STREET URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

CHESTER-LE-STREET

ANNUAL REPORT

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CHESTER-LE-STREET URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
CHESTER-LE-STREET.

*The Chairman and Members of the
Chester-le-Street Urban District Council.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for the year 1962.

Statistically we see that both Birth and Death Rates have risen slightly as compared with 1961.

The Infantile Mortality Rate fell considerably. There were no deaths recorded as being due to tuberculosis, and the new cases notified were one less than for 1961. The total number of infectious diseases was low due to 1962 being a non-measles year.

With regard to environmental conditions, we must note that work on the Sewage Works extensions began during the year.

Provision of adequate housing is one of the main ways in which a district council can improve the health of the population. In this regard it is pleasing to see that the Council's housing figure for 1962 has made an upward step towards the pre-1960 numbers.

Your Public Health Inspector brought 18 houses forward for condemnation. In 14 cases, Improvement Grants were made by the Council after reports by the Public Health Inspector. This is unfortunately a fall as compared with 1961.

Unfortunately little progress was made during the year in the efforts to make a Smoke Control Area in the town.

On the whole it was a satisfactory year from a Public Health point of view.

I wish to thank the Chairman and all members of the Council for the continued support and help and also the various members of the Staff for their efforts during the year.

Yours faithfully,

J. L. SIDDLE,
Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

1962

COUNCILLOR N. HOLYOAKE (Chairman)

COUN. G. BAMBROUGH

COUN. R. PORTER

COUN. T. E. DAVISON

COUN. J. POWNEY

COUN. MRS. A. EYEINGTON

COUN. MRS. D. H. RIDDELL, J.P.

COUN. W. GOWLAND

COUN. N. RIDDELL

COUN. S. HEMINGWAY

COUN. H. C. SPEARS

COUN. C. F. C. LAWSON, J.P.

COUN. L. USHER, J.P.

COUN. J. MCGORRIGAN

COUN. C. M. WAGGET

COUN. J. MILLER

COUN. H. B. YOUNG

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health:—

JOHN LANGLEY SIDDLE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
(Joint appointment with R.D.C. and Durham C.C.)

Public Health Inspector:—

PHILIP McKENNA, M.A.P.H.I.

Rodent Operator:—

JOHN KNOX

Clerical Staff:—

DOROTHY M. TAYLOR (resigned 1963)

LINDA A. GOWLAND

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND LOCAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

1st April, 1962 — 31st March, 1963

Area	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,656 acres
Population estimated mid-year 1962	..	..	..	..	..	..	19,070
Number of inhabited houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,455
terrace houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,100
detached houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	207
semi-detached	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,027
farm houses and cottages	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
houses and shops combined	..	..	..	..	..	..	59
council houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,049
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	..	£183,879
Estimated product of the penny rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	£732

The Urban District of Chester-le-Street includes the mining village of Chester Moor to the South ; Pelton Fell and Newfield to the West ; and South Pelaw towards the North-West.

Much of the district is rural in character the town itself being in a basin surrounded by uplands with a gentle rise from the River Wear to the West.

The industrial occupation is still largely mining, the collieries being situated on the outskirts of the district.

The mining activities are slowing down and the general character of the town is changing as the years go by. With the building of large numbers of modern houses and being within easy access of the large centres of employment on the Tyne and Wear the town is becoming mainly residential.

In fact the name now being given, the Garden City of Chester-le-Street, is very appropriate having regard to the recreational facilities, the river, the scenery, the nearby castles, the modern estates and the improved shopping centre.

VITAL STATISTICS

The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population for 1962 was 19,070 as compared with 18,930 for 1961.

The population figures in the Wards as shown by the 1961 Census were supplied by the Registrar General. The table below shows the figures as compared with those of the 1951 Census.

			1951	1961
<i>Ward</i>			<i>Census Figures</i>	<i>Census Figures</i>
North	..	..	5,471	5,376
West	..	..	3,775	3,494
Central	..	..	2,859	2,303
South	..	..	2,532	4,407
Pelton Fell	..	..	3,028	2,931
Chester Moor	..	..	873	457

Births

There were 303 live births during 1962 as compared with 289 in 1961. The respective Birth Rates being 15.8 in 1962 and 15.4 in 1961. The Comparability Factor for births was 1.00.

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	
<i>Live Births</i>				
Legitimate	151	144	295	
Illegitimate.....	5	3	8	303

Illegitimate live births were (2.6 per cent of total live births)

<i>Still Births</i>				
Legitimate	1	3	4	
Illegitimate.....	—	—	—	4

Still birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still births 13.0)

TABLE 1.

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1962

	Rate per 1,000 Total Population	Rate per 1,000 Total Births	Annual Death Rate per 1,000 population								Rate per 1,000 live Births	
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Influenza	Tuberculosis (all forms)	Acute Poliomy- elitis & polio- encephalitis	Malignant Neoplasm Lung, Bronchus	Coronary and arteriosclerotic heart disease	Total Deaths under 1 year of age
ENGLAND AND WALES ..	18.0	18.1	11.9	0.00	0.00	0.68	0.07	0.07	0.00	0.51	2.20	21.6
DURHAM COUNTY ..	18.6	19.7	11.6	0.00	0.00	0.80	0.06	0.06	0.00	0.45	2.38	26.07
CHESTER-LE-STREET ..	15.8	13.0	13.9	0.00	0.00	1.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.26	3.35	9.9

Deaths

The number of deaths during 1962 was 265 compared with 258 in 1961. The Crude Death Rate for 1962 was 13.9 and 13.6 for 1961.

TABLE 2.

Causes of Death

	Male	Female	Total
ALL CAUSES	142	123	265
Syphilitic disease	1	—	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm — Stomach	6	6	12
Lung bronchus	5	—	5
Breast	—	5	5
Uterus	—	3	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	12	9	21
Leukaemia	—	1	1
Diabetes	4	1	5
Vascular lesions of nervous system	15	17	32
Coronary disease—Angina	39	25	64
Hypertension with heart disease	—	3	3
Other heart disease	6	7	13
Other circulatory disease	9	11	20
Pneumonia	14	9	23
Bronchitis	3	2	5
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	1	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	—	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
Congenital malformations	2	—	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	11	12	23
Motor vehicle accidents	3	3	6
All other accidents	6	6	12

The following were the chief causes of death during the year :—

TABLE 3.

<i>Causes of Death</i>	1962		1961	
	<i>No. of Deaths</i>	<i>Per cent of total Deaths</i>	<i>No. of Deaths</i>	<i>Per cent of total Deaths</i>
1. Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System	132	49.8	137	53.1
2. Cancer	44	16.6	45	17.4
3. Respiratory Diseases	31	11.7	31	12.1
4. Violence—				
Road Traffic Accidents 6-5				
Other Violent Causes 12-5 ..	18	6.8	10	3.8
5. Tuberculosis	—	—	5	1.9

There was a slight rise in the number of deaths during 1962 as compared with 1961—from 258 to 265.

Once again diseases of the heart and circulatory system were at the head of the list being responsible for half the total deaths (132). Of these coronary artery disease deaths numbered 64 which is 24.1 per cent. of all deaths.

The percentage of deaths due to cancer was much the same—16.6 per cent. of all deaths. However, deaths from cancer of the lung fell considerably from 11 in 1961 to 5 in 1962.

Deaths under the heading of violence were almost doubled. Motor vehicle accident deaths rose from 5 to 6 and deaths from all other accidents from 5 to 12.

No deaths were recorded from pulmonary tuberculosis. From records available such an event has not previously occurred.

Infantile Mortality

There were only three deaths of infants under 1 year of age. The Infantile Mortality Rate for the year was 9.9 which is considerably lower than the previous year. Only in 1957 has there been a recorded rate lower than 9.9. Two of the three deaths were due to congenital defects.

TABLE 4.

<i>Cause of Death</i>				<i>Age at Death</i>	
Congenital Defects	..	..	..	1 day	.
Congenital Defects	..	..	..	1 week 11 days	
Acute Septicaemia	..	..	..	2 months	
Neonatal Mortality Rate	..	..	..	6.6	
Early neonatal Mortality Rate			..	3.3	
Perinatal Mortality Rate	..	..	..	16.3	

Maternal Mortality

There were no deaths during the year under this heading.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(1) Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle, is in the New Institute of Pathology at the General Hospital, Newcastle.

The Director is Dr. J. H. Hale.

The Laboratory continued to provide help in carrying out bacteriological examinations of various samples (Water, Ice-Cream etc.), submitted by the Health Department.

(2) Local Health Authority Services

The Administrative County is divided up into twelve areas, Chester-le-Street Urban and Rural Districts forming No. 4 Area. For each area, a Health Sub-Committee has been appointed to exercise on behalf of the County Health Committee, certain functions relating to services under the National Health Services Act, 1946.

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the Statistics concerning the services in this part of the report.

(a) Health Visitor Service

The number of health visitors in the area is 2 and the following is a summary of the work done by them during the year ended 31st December, 1962.

Domiciliary Visits

1. Maternity and Child Welfare	4,301
2. Tuberculosis	205
3. Mentally handicapped	158
4. Schools	198
5. General health	47
6. Aged people	125

Summary

Ineffective visits	786
Total number of visits	5,820
Number of effective visits	5,034
Time (as days) spent on visits (routine, other and ineffective)	223
Average daily number of effective visits per health visitor	22

Clinic, etc. work

Time (as days) spent—

(a) at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres	197
(b) at chest clinics	—
(c) at school head-to-head inspections ..	9
(d) at school medical inspections ..	10
(e) at special schools	21

(b) Clinics

The Mains Farm House, West Lane Clinic is used to provide accommodation for various clinics run by the County Council : Telephone No. Chester-le-Street 3286.

Ante-natal
Relaxation
Child Welfare

Birth Control
Post-natal
Artificial Sunlight

Distribution of Welfare Foods

National dried milk, orange juice, cod liver oil and vitamin tablets are distributed from the Welfare Centre as follows :—

Tuesday	—	all day
Friday	—	afternoon only

(c) Domiciliary, Midwifery and Home Nursing Services.

This is a Durham County Council Service. Working in the district there are 2 district nurses and 3 district midwives.

A summary of the work done is given below :—

Midwifery

No. of midwives employed 3

Work undertaken during year—

Midwifery cases	..	..	..	83
Maternity cases	..	..	..	13
Hospital discharges	..	..	..	54

Home Nursing

Staff	Medical		Surgical		Tuberculosis		Maternal Complications		Other Visits	Total	
	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits		Cases	Visits
2 District Nurses	131	3,638	34	906	17	701	1	34	209	183	5,488

Included in this table—

Patients 65 years and over	..	105 cases with 2,867 visits
Patients under 5 years	..	3 cases with 41 visits
Visits for injections only	..	1,483

(d) Ambulance Service

The Chester-le-Street Urban District is served principally by the Ambulance Depot situated at Osborne Road, Chester-le-Street. This depot has an establishment of 1 Depot Superintendent, 11 driver-attendants and 5 vehicles. The depot operates from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and is closed on Sundays. The remainder of each 24 hours is covered by vehicles from Durham, New Herrington or Stanley depots. Overall control is exercised by a Central Control at Durham where, by a system of direct telephone lines and radio, close supervision is kept on vehicles operating in all parts of the county, thus enabling any area to be reinforced as necessary.

All requests for ambulance transport in the area are made to the Central Control at Durham, where a 24-hour service is maintained.

The following table shows the work undertaken by the Chester-le-Street depot during the year, but it should be noted that these figures will include patients from areas other than the Urban District and that the conveyance of patients residing in the Urban District is not restricted to the Chester-le-Street depot, but may be undertaken by vehicles from other depots passing through the area.

Last year's figures are given in brackets.

<i>Journeys</i>	<i>Patients carried</i>			<i>Mileage</i>
	<i>Stretcher</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	<i>Total</i>	
5,055 (4,436)	2,163 (2,174)	16,474 (14,992)	18,637 (17,166)	104,274 (97,684)

(e) *Domestic Help*

Domestic Helps are provided by the County Council where necessary in cases of sickness, childbirth, infirmity or other household emergencies.

Cases attended 1st January, 1962	..	..	69
New cases served during year	..	..	22
Cases terminated	..	..	5
Cases attended at 31st December, 1962	..	..	86
No. of home helps employed during year	..	..	46

Number of cases provided during year—

(a) Maternity (including expectant mothers)	..	2
(b) Tuberculosis	..	1
(c) Chronic sick (including aged and infirm)	..	68
(d) Others	..	20

(f) *Prevention of Illness and After-Care*

Under this section of the National Health Service the Durham County Council supply nursing requisites on loan to those needing them. A fee is charged, the assessment of which depends on income and type of article borrowed. All these articles are stored in Durham City and have to be brought out to the place where they are required.

(g) *School Health Service*

The School Health Service is run by the Durham County Council from headquarters at the County Hall, Durham.

The nearest clinic for Chester-le-Street schoolchildren is at Birtley. The clinic is open daily and is attended on Monday and Wednesday by a School Medical Officer.

Routine medical inspections of children are carried out in the schools by a School Medical Officer.

(3) Hospital Services

The population of the district is in the main dealt with by the Durham Group of Hospitals. The hospitals situated in Chester-le-Street are the General Hospital and Infectious Diseases Hospital.

The General Hospital in Chester-le-Street caters for both acute and chronic illnesses.

(4) Executive Council Service

The Executive Council for the County of Durham is the body responsible for the administration of the General Practitioner Services in the District.

The General Practitioner Services consist of the Family Doctor Service, the General Dental Service, the Pharmaceutical Service and the Supplementary Ophthalmic Service, each providing the patient with the individual attention needed. These services are available to all civilians according to their medical need.

(5) Health Education

The sound film projector made available by the County Council for use by the District Medical Officers of Health was used during the year.

Leaflets and posters were distributed and support was given to National Campaigns.

The booklet "Better Health" was sent out as in previous years.

(6) National Assistance Act 1948

It was not found necessary during the year to use this Act for compulsory removal of anyone to Hospital or Hostel.

(7) Physically Handicapped

The Club for Physically Handicapped which has been mentioned in the report for the last four years has continued to thrive.

(8) Meals on Wheels

New legislation. The National Assistance Act 1948 (Amendment) Act 1962—gave added powers to district authorities in helping the aged. "The provisions of the Act enable local authorities and voluntary organisations working in partnership to extend their arrangements for the care of elderly people and in particular to provide the support needed to enable many who are frail or handicapped to continue to live at home." This quotation is from a circular from the Ministry of Health in the Act.

By the end of the year negotiations were under way for using the Act for providing a Meals on Wheels service in co-operation with the W.V.S.

SECTION C

1. Water

Water is supplied in the district by the Durham County Water Board. The supply during 1962 has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

5 samples were sent for bacteriological examination all of which were found to be satisfactory.

One sample was submitted for chemical analysis by the public analyst and was also found to be satisfactory.

All the population is supplied by the public water mains direct to the dwelling houses.

2. Ash Closets

A small number still remain in the town but only because circumstances do not permit conversion to the water carriage system.

3. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The work on the new extensions to the sewage works began in May 1962. By the end of the year good progress had been made.

When completed the works will be able adequately to cope with the whole of Chester-le-Street Urban District as well as Grange Villa and a part of the Rural District on the North side of the town.

The estimated cost of the scheme is £205,000.

4. Clean Air

Proposed Smoke Control Area No. 1.

During the year the Public Health Inspector submitted a report on a Proposed Smoke Control Area. This suggested that an area of 170 acres bounded on the North side by the Waldrige Road, on the East by the Main Line Railway, on the South by the South Dene Burn and on the West by the Boundary with the Rural District. The Area included :—

West Lane Housing Estate (U.D.C. Property)
Garden Farm Estate (will eventually include 650 houses)
Garden House Farm and 3 Cottages
Miners Rehabilitation Centre and 3 Cottages
Mendip House (D.C.C. Hostel)
Chester-le-Street Co-op. Society Branch Shop.

The total cost of the scheme to the council was estimated as about £2,878. The scheme was submitted to the Ministry and a reply received which was summarised as follows :—

“ The Minister states that he is anxious to encourage the introduction of smoke control in districts where there is, or is likely to be, a smoke pollution problem. However smoke control imposes certain restrictions and obligations on householders who are affected by it and that even where no expenditure of public money is called for, care must be taken to ensure that the benefit to community of cleaner air will justify the liability imposed on the individual. Accordingly he asks to be informed whether the council have any information regarding the actual level of smoke pollution in the area and also whether they have approved a programme of smoke control for the whole district and if so the extent and estimated time for completion.”

As a result of the letter little progress had been made by the end of the year.

One can only hope that districts which are not in “ Black Areas” but closely related to such areas will in time be encouraged to introduce Smoke Control Areas.

Other Matters Investigated

River Wear

Investigation into the bacterial contents of the river water were carried out and during the year a detailed report was made. As has been the case previously no organisms of the enteric, food poisoning or dysentery were isolated at the laboratory.

Clean Milk Bottle Campaign

The problem of dirty milk bottles is continually with us. The number involved is only a minute proportion of the millions of bottles dealt with but never the less so long as one dirty bottle appears we must look upon the position as requiring attention.

Support was given during the year to the Clean Milk Bottle Campaign.

INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

	Number of Inspections	Number of Informal Notices Served	Number of Statutory Notices Served	Defects Remedied after Notice
Housing :				
Public Health and Housing Act	627	65	8	51
Overcrowding	2	1	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :				
Insufficient	1	1	—	1
Defective	39	17	1	21
Drainage	56	13	1	11
Water Supply	3	1	—	—
Food Premises	86	9	—	—
Shop Act	19	—	—	—
Dairies	—	—	—	—
Slaughter Houses :				
Public	—	—	—	—
Private	—	—	—	—
Tents, Vans, etc.	—	—	—	—
Offensive Trades	—	—	—	—
Factories and Workplaces	15	6	2	6
Keeping of Animals	2	1	—	1
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles	18	2	9	9
Offensive accumulations	1	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances	—	—	—	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	605	—	—	—
Licensed Premises	15	6	—	—
Miscellaneous	7	—	—	—
Clean Air Act	161	—	—	—
Total	1,657	122	21	100

6. RATS and MICE (Prevention of Damage by Pests) Act, 1949
Report for year ended 31st December, 1962

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				(5) Agri- cultural
	NON-AGRICULTURAL				
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All Other (including Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	180	6,368	861	7,409	13
2. Total number of <i>properties inspected</i> as a result of <i>notification</i>	2	67	45	114	—
Number of such properties found to be infested by :—					
Common rat Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	53	14	67	—
House mouse Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	16	6	22	—
3. Total number of <i>properties inspected</i> in the course of <i>survey under the Act</i>	24	70	20	114	—
Number of such properties found to be infested by :					
Common rat Major	—	—	—	—	1
Minor	—	54	14	68	—
House mouse Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	16	6	22	—
4. Total number of <i>properties otherwise inspected</i> (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purposes)	—	—	—	—	3
Number of such properties found to be infested by :					
Common rat Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	1	—	1	—
House mouse Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—	—
5. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	330	180	90	600	—
6. Number of infested properties (in Sections 2, 3, 4 treated by the L.A.).....	26	137	65	288	—
7. Number of “Block” control schemes carried out	—	7	—	—	—

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

PART ONE OF THE ACT

1.—INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		Occupiers Prosecuted
		Inspections	Written Notices	
1. Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	—	—	—	—
2. Factories not included in 1, in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.....	44	15	6	—
3. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-worker's premises)	4	—	—	—
Total	48	15	6	—

2.—CASES in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			
	Found	Remedied	Referred	
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector
Sanitary Conveniences :—				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	6	6	—	2
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Total	6	6	—	2

SECTION D

Housing

There were 84 council houses completed during the year. These consisted of 72 three-bedroomed houses and 12 flats. 98 houses were completed by private builders.

Houses Built since 1953

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	Total
New Permanent Council Houses ..	140	111	109	108	116	129	122	70	43	84	1,102
Re-lets	59	81	72	48	49	101	76	118	146	117	867
Private	8	9	11	36	14	8	23	39	72	98	327

Rehousing

Rehousing on medical priority was carried out for 5 families during the year. 28 families were rehoused from condemned property. The figures for rehousing from condemned property for the past five years are as follows :—

1958	..	101
1959	..	47
1960	..	30
1961	..	11
1962	..	28

The waiting period for a council house for persons on the ordinary list is still about 10 years.

Slum Clearance

During the year no further Clearance Areas were declared : 18 houses were condemned during the year. All of these were brought forward by your Public Health Inspector as individual unfit houses.

Improvement Grants

Your Public Health Inspector dealt with 14 applications for Improvement Grants during the year. All of the 14 were agreed to by the Council.

The figures for the past 4 years are shown below.

1959	..	8
1960	..	23
1961	..	19
1962	..	14

Improvements—Council Houses

The last 50 houses which did not have bathrooms were provided with same during the year.

Once the 45 bungalows are dealt with (these are in hand) all council properties will have that essential amenity—a bathroom.

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

Ice Cream

There were 55 premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the manufacture and/or sale of Ice Cream.

Sampling continued through the year. Ice Cream was taken, by the Public Health Inspector, at various stages of production and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. In all he submitted 26 samples of Ice Cream with results as under :—

Provisional Grade 1	..	19
Provisional Grade 2	..	2
Provisional Grade 4	..	5

Two samples of Ice Cream powder were satisfactory.

Dr. Norton of the Public Health Laboratory kindly paid a visit to the premises of one manufacturer and made certain recommendations. Another manufacturer whose product had not been up to standard was interviewed by the Health Committee.

Milk and Dairies

Only milk of specified designation may be sold in the district. The granting of Dealers Licences authorising the use of special designations is now the responsibility of the Durham County Council. The County Council staff take samples of milk for examination and copies of the results are sent to the Chester-le-Street Urban District. In all 75 samples were reported on.

There are 2 dairies registered with this authority.

Meat and other Foods

No slaughterhouses now operate in the district and all meat sold is brought from slaughterhouses outside the district.

The following foodstuffs were found by the Public Health Inspector to be unsound and were voluntarily surrendered :—

Canned Fruit	..	1,062 lbs.
Canned Meat	..	814 lbs.
Canned Milk	..	25 lbs.
Canned Fish	..	23 lbs.
Miscellaneous	..	25 lbs.
Total		.. 1,949 lbs.

Food Premises

Routine inspections by your Public Health Inspector were carried out during the year.

In all the Inspector made 86 inspections and in 9 cases it was found necessary to serve written notices drawing attention to certain requirements.

Complaints of food containing foreign matter were few during the year.

One complaint made to your Public Health Inspector was regarding a bottle of Sarsparilla which was thought to contain Oil of Wintergreen. It was discovered that Oil of Wintergreen is a normal constituent of Sarsparilla essence and the slight excess present did not justify any statutory action.

Food and Drugs Act 1955—Registration of Premises

Premises for manufacture, sale and storage of Ice Cream	..	55
Premises manufacturing Sausage, Potted Meat and Pressed Foods		7

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Notifications during 1962 numbered only 29. There were 302 during 1961 the big difference being due to measles.

Measles

During 1962 only 6 cases were notified as compared with 282 in 1961. This shows well the difference between a “measles” year and a “non-measles” year.

Scarlet Fever

Only 1 case was notified in 1962 which was unchanged from 1961.

Diphtheria

No cases were notified for the 13th consecutive year.

Immunisation

The percentage of children born in 1961 protected against Diphtheria was 66 per cent.

This is not so high as we would like but compared favourably with the England and Wales average of 67 per cent.

Increased efforts are now being made to try to get a higher percentage protected. Almost all mothers who have their children protected request the “triple” vaccine which provides protection against Whooping Cough and Tetanus at the same time.

The immunisation figures for diphtheria for the last four years are as follows :—

	1959	1960	1961	1962
Primary Immunisation 0-15 years	61	27	300	242
Booster Doses 	100	75	127	98

Poliomyelitis

1962 has been the fourth successive year during which no cases have been notified in the district. Oral vaccine became available at the beginning of the year and a full scheme to ensure that as many school children as possible were protected was carried out. The response was excellent no doubt due to the fact that “No Pricks” were needed and the treatment simply involved sucking a sugar lump.

The percentage of person under 21 years protected against Poliomyelitis in the district is 70 per cent.

Whooping Cough

Only 4 cases were notified during the year. None were notified in 1961.

The use of the “triple” vaccine which protects against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus must I feel take some credit for the reduction in cases notified in the past few years. The combination of vaccines resulting in fewer injections has encouraged parents to have their infants protected against this disease.

During the year 225 children were given a primary course of injections and 22 were given a booster dose.

Smallpox

There was early in 1962 an outbreak of smallpox in the country, the main centres being Bradford and Cardiff.

There was as a result a terrific demand for vaccination in this area as well as throughout the country. Stocks of lymph were limited but where essential, for contacts etc., were available through the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle.

The outbreak subsided without any actual cases in the district although a few contacts had to be dealt with.

Tuberculosis

There were 10 notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 1 Non-Pulmonary during 1962. There were no deaths recorded as being due to Tuberculosis.

The notifications were much the same as for 1961 but the fact that there were no deaths from Tuberculosis is an outstanding event. The previous records do not show this for any year. The figures for the past 10 years are given below :—

Year	Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	
	Notifications	Deaths	Notifications	Deaths
1953	20	7	1	1
1954	15	2	4	—
1955	16	1	1	—
1956	14	3	2	1
1957	10	5	2	—
1958	8	6	2	1
1959	9	1	3	—
1960	6	1	—	—
1961	11	5	1	—
1962	10	—	1	—

Table showing age and sex Distribution of New Cases and Deaths during 1962

Age Groups		New Cases				Deaths			
		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 4 years	..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 years	..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
16—24 years	..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—44 years	..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—64 years	..	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
65—74 years	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
75 years and over	..	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Total	..	2	8	—	—	—	1	—	—

B.C.G.

The B.C.G. scheme for vaccination of school leavers was continued for the seventh year. Arrangements were made in co-operation with the Chest Physician and the Mass Radiography Unit for the visit of a Caravan Unit. By using this smaller mobile unit all positive schoolchildren were X-rayed.

The figures were as follows :—

<i>School</i>	<i>Number Tuberculin Tested</i>	<i>Number Positive</i>	<i>Per Cent. Positive</i>	<i>Number Vaccinated</i>
Grammar School ..	133	39	29.0	92
Modern School ..	219	64	29.0	138
R.C. School	8	3	37.0	3
<i>Total</i> ..	360	106	29.0	233

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1962

Disease	Under 1 year	1—5 years	6—15 years	16—25 years	26—45 years	46—65 years	66 and up	All Ages	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	December	November	Total Notifications	Admitted to Hospital
Pneumonia ..	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	6	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	6	5
Measles ..	1	4	1	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	—	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	6	—
Whooping Cough ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Scarlet Fever ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Tuberculosis (Pul.) ..	—	1	1	1	2	4	1	10	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	—	1	2	—	2	10	8
Tuberculosis (Non-Pul.) ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Food Poisoning ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1

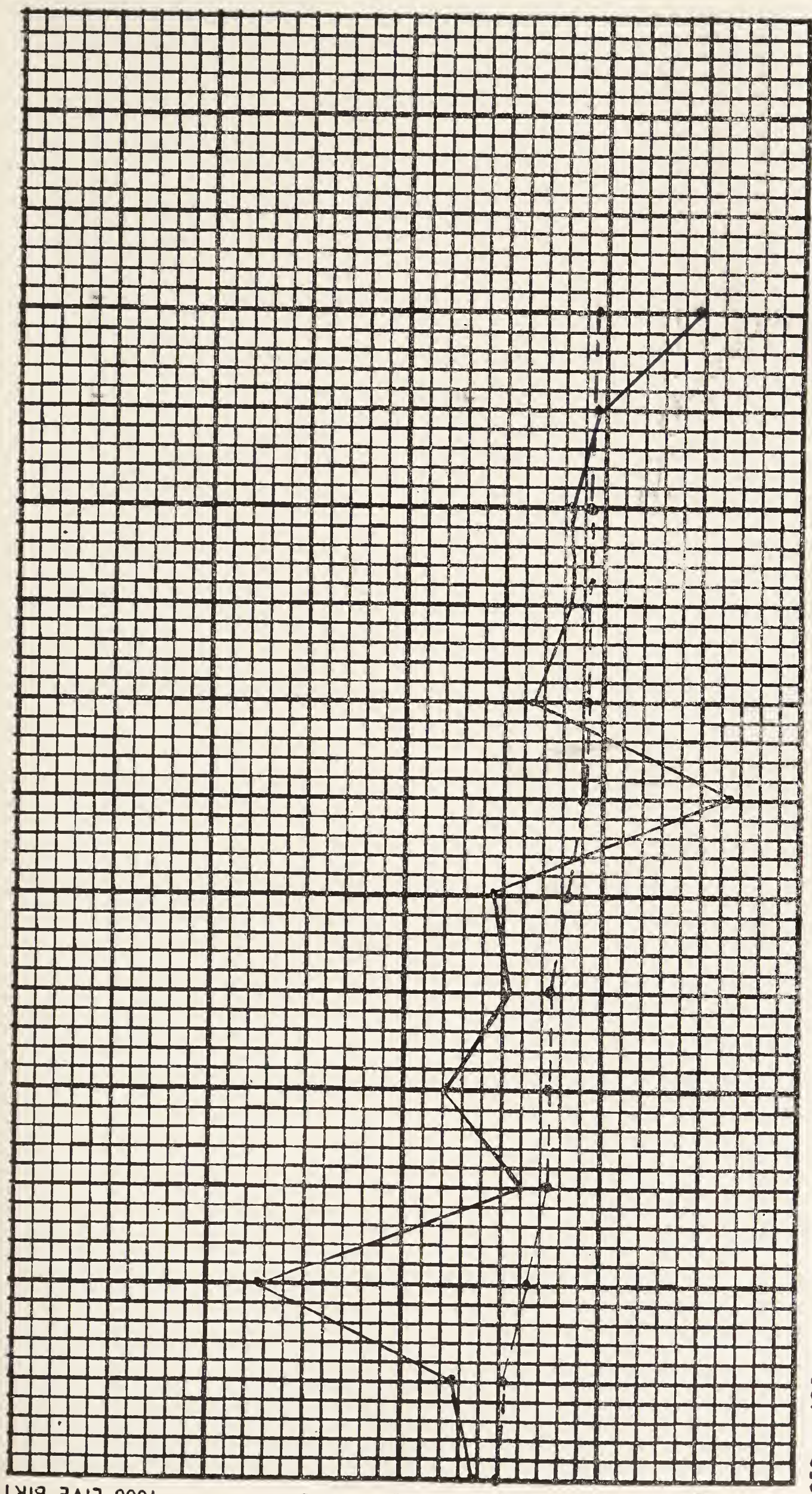
INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS SINCE 1953

Disease	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Scarlet Fever	17	7	4	7	14	6	3	—	1	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid Fever)	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	13	13	9	2	8	2	4	9	6	6
Erysipelas	3	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	3	17	18	38	9	13	7	15	—	4
Measles	45	18	131	18	264	14	251	14	282	6
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis	4	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	3	1	2	3	—	—	—	1	—
Tuberculosis (Pul.)	20	15	16	14	10	8	9	6	11	10
Tuberculosis (Non-Pul.)	1	4	1	2	2	2	3	—	1	1
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—

RATE PER
1000 LIVE BIRTHS

60
50
40
30
20
10

1950 1951 1952 1953 1954 1955 1956 1957 1958 1959 1960 1961 1962



PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATE

CHESTER-LE-STREET U.D.

ENGLAND AND WALES

RATE PER 1000 POPULATION

